

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00628 121559Z

12

ACTION DRC-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 /008 W
----- 111420
R 121314Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2975

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: AINF
SUBJECT: PRIVACY ACT REQUEST - MARSHALL SOGHOIAN

REF: STATE 29387

1. CAREFUL CHECK AND DOUBLE CHECK OF EMBASSY FILES BEARING ON MARSHALL SOGHOIAN'S INTRODUCTION TO AND CONTRACTUAL RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA COVERING PERIOD 1970 TO PRESENT HAS BEEN MADE BY SENIOR OFFICERS OF THIS MISSION. CONCLUSION REACHED IS THAT OUR FILE CONTAINS NO DOCUMENTATION OR MATERIAL WHICH IS NOT RPT NOT ALREADY ON FILE AND DUPLICATED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND SHOULD -- WE BELIEVE -- MOST EXPEDITOUSLY BE HANDLED IN WASHINGTON. MORE IMPORTANT, FILE CONTAINS MUCH SENSITIVE MATERIAL COVERING CONVERSATIONS WITH ZAMBIAN GOVT OFFICIALS HERE AND IN WASHINGTON WHICH THIS MISSION CONSIDERS SHOULD BE EXEMPT FROM RELEASE UNDER 5 USC 522 A (K)(1) AND (2) BECAUSE IT COULD BE EMBARRASSING TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA AND DAMAGING TO OUR RELATIONS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY. AS PROVED WHEN SOME PORTION OF USG

FILE ON SOGHOIAN CAME INTO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN THROUGH LEAKS TO THE US PRESS IN SUMMER 1973.

2. THIS OPINION HAS BEEN CONCURRED IN BY A RANKING OFFICIAL OF THE ZAMBIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHO WAS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE CASE WHEN HE WAS CHARGE AT ZAMBIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. MOFA OFFICER AFFIRMED THAT THE GRZ
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WOULD NOT RPT NOT MAKE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST SENSITIVE

INFORMATION REGARDING THE NATURE OF ITS CONTRACTUAL RELATIONS
WITH SOGHOIAN AND IT WOULD HOPE THAT THE USG WOULD NOT RPT NOT
HAVE NEED TO DO SO EITHER.
WILKOWSKI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LUSAKA00628
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760095-0405
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760367/aaaacgzd.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DRC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 29387
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUL 2004 by saccheem>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIVACY ACT REQUEST - MARSHALL SOGHOIAN
TAGS: AINF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006